

WASCO NEWS

Published Every Friday

WASCOOREGON

RESUME OF THE WEEK'S DOINGS

General Review of Important Happenings Presented in a Brief and Comprehensive Manner for Busy Readers—National, Political, Historical and Commercial.

A slight earthquake was felt throughout Italy.

The sultan of Turkey shows signs of yielding to the powers.

Cuba has sent a gunboat to investigate the affairs of the Isle of Pines.

Linievitch is said to have put down a mutiny in Manchuria after much bloodshed.

The University of Pennsylvania has taken the initiative in suggesting new football rules.

New York police authorities have doubled the number of police reserves, presumably in anticipation of a strike by ironworkers.

Heavy seas have swept away 100,000 feet of the east coast of Coney island and the inhabitants are terror stricken lest more should go.

A terrible gale has swept the English channel. It is reported that the British battleship King Edward VII foundered during the storm.

Officials investigating the affairs of the Seattle assay office have discovered evidence to show that Adams' defalcations extended as far back as 1903.

The United States sold to Canada last year exports to the value of \$166,000,000. This is more than 62 per cent of the whole of Canadian imports and but 11 per cent of the exports of the United States.

Oregon, Kansas, Texas, New Mexico, New York, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Utah and Maryland all have men in congress who would benefit their states by resigning, as their terms of usefulness have passed.

Henry Watterson says he wants no public office.

The British Liberal party has split on home rule.

Dowie has returned from his new colony in Mexico.

There is a growing disaffection in the St. Petersburg garrison.

Russian police have found letters telling of a plot to kill the czar.

Sarah Bernhardt will build and maintain a theater in New York, according to her manager.

Turkey is expected to offer no resistance to the allied fleet unless troops are landed, in which event a fight may ensue.

The large number of accidents in football games this season has aroused college authorities to take action against the game.

It is probable that in the reorganization of congress Ankeny and Fulton will secure chairmanships of important committees.

The management of the Rock Island railroad has decided to practically rebuild the entire system to secure a minimum grade.

Fifteen persons were injured and many others badly shaken up in a wreck on the Missouri Pacific near Leeds, Missouri.

The Russian minister of finance estimates that the expenditures for the coming year will be \$1,020,000,000 and the revenue \$1,027,000,000.

The powers may allow Austria to seize Macedonia.

A fierce gale in Chicago did much damage to property.

A fresh mutiny has broken out on the Russian Black sea fleet.

More graft is being exposed in the insurance inquiry at New York.

Bulgaria is anxious to invade Macedonia, but is restrained by the powers.

Russian employers have united to fight the strikers, who have nearly ruined them.

Helena shippers have organized to fight rate discrimination and may form a state association.

The cashier of the Hayti, Missouri, bank has disappeared with \$18,000 of the institution's money.

A large colony of Boers is to locate in Venezuela. A grant of over a million acres of land has been made by President Castro.

Four prisoners in the Jefferson, Missouri, penitentiary, made a desperate attempt to escape. Two guards were killed, a third seriously wounded, and the prison gates blown up with nitro glycerine. The convicts were captured after a fight in which one was killed and one wounded.

GREATEST HARVEST IN HISTORY

Present Year Was Record Breaker in United States.

Washington, Nov. 28.—"Wealth production on the farms of the United States in 1905 reached the highest amount ever attained in this or any other country—\$6,415,000,000."

In the first annual report of his third term Secretary of Agriculture Wilson presents an array of figures and a statement representing products and profits of the farmers of this country, which he admits "dreams of wealth production could hardly equal."

Four crops make new high records as to value—corn, hay, wheat and rice—although in amount of production the corn is the only one that exceeds previous yields. In every crop the general level of production was high and that of prices still higher. Beside the enormous yield of wealth the secretary estimates that the farms of the country have increased in value during the past five years to a present aggregate of \$6,133,000,000.

"Every sunset during the past five years," he says, "has registered an increase of \$3,400,000 in the value of the farms of this country."

Analyzing the principal crops for the year, the secretary says that corn reached its highest production at 2,708,000,000 bushels, a gain of 42,000,000 over the next highest year, 1899; hay is second in order of value, although cotton held second place during the two preceding years. The hay crop this year is valued at \$60,000,000. Cotton comes third, with a valuation of \$575,000,000; wheat, \$525,000,000; oats, \$282,000,000; potatoes, \$138,000,000; barley, \$58,000,000; tobacco, \$12,000,000; sugar, cane and sugar beets, \$50,000,000; rice, \$13,000,000; dairy products, \$50,000,000, an increase of \$54,000,000, over last year.

PLENTY OF MONEY.

Secretary of Interior Has Not Been Furnished Proper Figures.

Washington, Nov. 28.—When the secretary of the Interior and the Reclamation service reach an understanding as to the extent and condition of the national reclamation fund, it is expected that a number of new irrigation projects, including projects in Eastern Oregon and Eastern Washington, will be approved and placed under contract. But until there is a complete understanding, the present chaotic condition must continue, and inactivity will be the rule, save on projects that are actually under contract.

The great misunderstanding that now prevails is as to the amount of money available for use, and the restrictions under which that money may be expended. The Reclamation service has its own set of figures, but those figures do not coincide with the figures which have been furnished Secretary Hitchcock by the men in his own department upon whom he relies. The secretary, confronted with very different financial statements, from sources which ought to agree, has concluded that neither is right, yet he is unable to figure out for himself just how much money he has to spend, and how much he has spent in the 3½ years the reclamation law has been in force.

WRECK TAKES FIRE.

Fourteen Persons Lose Lives in Massachusetts Disaster.

Lincoln, Mass., Nov. 28.—Fourteen persons were killed, 25 were seriously injured, and probably a score of others cut and bruised in the most disastrous railroad wreck recorded in this state for many years. The wreck occurred at 8:15 o'clock, at Baker's Bridge station, a mile and a half west of Lincoln, on the main line of the Fitchburg division of the Boston & Maine railroad. The regular express, which left Boston at 7:45 o'clock for Montreal, by way of the Rutland system, crashed into the rear end of an accommodation train bound for points on the Marlborough branch, and which started from Boston at 7:15.

Of the dead, a dozen were passengers in the two rear cars of the Marlborough train. The other two were Engineer Barnard, of the Montreal express, and his fireman. No passengers on the express train were injured. Of those who lost their lives, a number were apparently instantly killed in the collision, while others were either burned to death or died from suffocation.

Oppose Rate Legislation.

Chicago, Nov. 28.—An organized movement on the part of railroad employees in every branch of the service has been put on foot to secure concerted action against the Roosevelt idea of rate legislation. Preliminary steps have already been taken by a committee of the brotherhoods of railroad men for a general mass meeting. Rate regulation, in the opinion of the employees, means a subsequent reduction in wages for them, and they propose a strong organization to oppose traffic rates.

Famine in Part of Japan.

Victoria, B. C., Nov. 28.—Famine prevails because of the failure of the rice crop in Northeast Japan. The government has begun relief measures.

RATE REGULATION IS FIRST

Tariff Revision Sidetracked for the Coming Session.

President Hopes To See Much Legislation Enacted, but Will Not Give Senate Excuse to Avoid Action by Debating in the Air and Bringing Nothing to Vote.

Washington, Nov. 28.—For various reasons President Roosevelt will not urge congress at the approaching session to take up the question of tariff revision. He believes the railroad rate question is the most vital issue which confronts the people of the United States today, and he is therefore unwilling to bring to the front any other problem whose discussion would tend to postpone, if not defeat, legislation on that subject. He proceeds on the theory that the worst evil should be first cured. After four years' experience in the white house, and with a comprehensive knowledge of the methods resorted to by congress to defeat legislation which is distasteful, the president is fully aware that he would materially decrease the chances of getting rate legislation if he should make tariff revision an issue of equal importance with the regulation of freight rates. He is aware that the senate would quickly seize upon this opportunity and concentrate its attention on a tariff bill, not so much with any idea of modifying the Dingley tariff as to distract attention and sidetrack the rate bill before it reached a critical stage.

There is other legislation which the president hopes to have passed besides the railroad rate bill, but he is more anxious about that measure than any other, and he will concentrate his efforts to secure such a law as will, in his judgment, effectively check discriminations of all sorts. He wants a law which will apply the "square deal" rule to railroad business, and if his influence, backed by public opinion, can bring it about, such a law will be written on the statute books before the first session of the Fifty-ninth congress adjourns.

CANAL ENGINEERS DEPART.

Ridicule Reports They Have Changed Decision on Sea Level.

Washington, Nov. 28.—The five foreign delegates to the board of consulting engineers of the Isthmian Canal commission left for New York today, and will sail for their homes. They will meet again in Brussels during the first days of January. General Davis will go to that city as representative of the American members of the board, and will take with him the documents, which are not yet drawn up, and which then will have to be signed by the foreign delegates.

Speaking of published stories that they had reconsidered their first vote, one of the delegates made the following statement:

"Whatever we have had to say will be found in the report which will shortly be in the hands of President Roosevelt. That we should change our vote on a subject to which for three months we had given the closest attention, and should change it merely because some parties are not contented with it, is a great absurdity."

Leave Isle of Pines to Cuba.

Washington, Nov. 28.—The Cuban government will be permitted to settle to its own satisfaction the existing trouble on the Isle of Pines. The State department has so announced. Of course, if American citizens were to be unduly persecuted or maltreated because of any exercise by them of their right of freedom of speech or assembly, this government will take steps to secure for them justice. But if those Americans on the islands place themselves outside the pale of the law by refusing to recognize the authority of the Cuban government, they will have to take the consequences.

Pesthouse Was Burglarized.

Butte, Mont., Nov. 28.—A Great Falls dispatch to the Miner states that the people of Teton county are in a furore over what is believed to be a threatened epidemic of smallpox as the result of burglarizing of the pesthouse. Several smallpox patients were confined in the detention house and the place has never been fumigated to the extent that it is believed that all danger of contagion is past. The people have been publicly warned by the health officials to be on the alert for any appearance of the disease.

Governor of Moscow Dismissed.

London, Nov. 28.—The correspondent of the Standard at Moscow says that General Drunovo, governor of Moscow, has been dismissed in disgrace owing to the revolutionary proceedings of the congress of peasants.

MAY LOSE POSITION

Mitchell Likely To Be Displaced on Senate Canal Committee

Washington, Nov. 27.—Apparently Senator Mitchell is to be deprived of the chairmanship of the committee on interoceanic canals when the senate reorganizes next month. This has not been definitely decided, but it is the consensus of opinion of arriving senators that Mitchell will have to relinquish his chairmanship in order that some active member of the canal committee can preside at its meetings this winter.

Congress must appropriate money early in the coming session for continuing work on the Panama canal, and must decide whether the canal shall be built with locks or at the sea level. This legislation, together with all other legislation pertaining to the canal and the canal zone, must be considered by the canal committee, and will be one of the most important topics to be considered. Because of its importance, senators believe the canal committee should have an active chairman, who can not only preside at committee meetings, but who can vote both in committee and in the senate, and who can furthermore take charge of canal legislation after it has been reported to the senate.

AMEND IMMIGRATION LAWS.

Sargent's Plan for Keeping Out All Undesirables.

Washington, Nov. 27.—Radical changes in the immigration laws will be made next year, if the suggestions of Commissioner General Sargent are put into effect. Mr. Sargent is anxious to have limits placed on the number of immigrants, and that persons who are either too young or too old to support themselves should not be permitted to disembark. This would not, however, apply to those who can furnish guarantees that they are on their way to relatives.

Mr. Sargent believes that by an arrangement with foreign governments the useless traffic of deportation of immigrants unfit to land here could be stopped. Before an immigrant is permitted to take passage for America, he should undergo an examination at the point of embarkation.

HITCHCOCK TO RESIGN.

Rumor That Western Congressmen Have Got His Scalp.

Washington, Nov. 27.—The fact leaked out tonight from a responsible source that at a recent cabinet meeting Ethan Allen Hitchcock, secretary of the Interior, expressed a desire to tender his resignation July 1 next. The same authority announces that Vespasian Warner, of Illinois, now commissioner of pensions, is to succeed him.

It is said the proposed change in the cabinet has been brought about by members of congress from western states, who charge that Mr. Hitchcock, in operations against land grabbers, has permitted his personal feelings to enter into the prosecutions. While this charge had been often repeated, it is said that the retirement of Mr. Hitchcock will be wholly due to the desire of the president to surround himself with younger men.

MILLION WOMEN FIGHT SMOOT.

Characterize Him as a Man Sanctioning Practice of Polygamy.

Philadelphia, Nov. 27.—A meeting of the executive committee of the National League of Women's organizations, formed two years ago to oppose the continuance in the United States senate of Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah, was held here today. Women from all sections of the country were present. It was announced that a petition would be presented to the senate asking for the exclusion of Mr. Smoot on the ground that "he is a member of a hierarchy whose president and a majority of the members practice and teach polygamy." The memorial will state that "Mr. Smoot has never raised his voice against these doctrines, and the Mormon hierarchy has broken its covenants which it gave to the United States when statehood was granted."

Summoned by Judge Hunt.

Helena, Nov. 27.—United States Judge Hunt today ordered Frederick A. Hyde, John A. Benson and other Californians to appear and answer on February 5 the complaint charging them with having fraudulently obtained a forest reserve scrip, under which 4,000 acres of Montana land was secured from the government. The government seeks to have the land retored to it. There are a number of Montana corporations and individuals who are also named as defendants in the bill of complaint filed.

Will Cut Forests and Crops.

Iibau, Nov. 27.—Agrarian disorders have broken out in the Baltic province. A peasant meeting adopted resolutions to cut forest on private land and to appropriate crops. The governor general has issued a proclamation to the troops to fire on such offenders, and saying that the participants at such meetings will be court martialled and sent to distant provinces.

CHARGES ALL TO OREGON

Refuses to Make Change in Favor of Klamath Project.

Hitchcock Admits California Will Have Share in the Benefits—Fulton's Plea for Umatilla Irrigation Falls on Deaf Ears—Secretary Openly Denounces Malheur.

Washington, Nov. 25.—Secretary Hitchcock is now convinced of the interstate character of the Klamath irrigation project and acknowledges that California is to benefit by the work in contemplation fully as much as Oregon, but he is not willing to change his order charging the entire allotment to the state of Oregon.

When Senator Fulton again took up the matter of the Umatilla project with the secretary, he found Hitchcock holding the same views he voiced on the occasion of his previous visits, contending that Oregon's 51 per cent reserve fund has been appropriated and explaining that there are no funds available for construction of the Umatilla project.

Mr. Fulton maintains that, even if the secretary adheres to his determination to charge the entire cost of the Klamath work to Oregon, there is yet enough money in the reclamation fund to the credit of Oregon to build the Umatilla project. On June 30 last Oregon's restricted fund was practically \$2,500,000. Deducting \$2,000,000 allotted for Klamath, there was yet \$500,000 left, and it is Mr. Fulton's contention that since July 1, 1905, enough money has been received from disposal of public lands in Oregon to make the other \$500,000 necessary for the Umatilla project. The secretary is unable to state how much money Oregon has contributed to the fund since July, but will advise the senator when he ascertains the facts.

Notwithstanding that he denounces the Malheur project a "steal," and alludes to the operation of the wagon road people as a "graft," the secretary will not formally set aside this project, though admitting that he will not construct it. Nor will he permit the Malheur allotment to be used in part for the Umatilla project. He says Oregon has had her full share of reclamation money outside of the Malheur project, and is not entitled to the benefit of the money which is now credited to the project, but which is not being used.

TRY TO DAM SALTON SEA.

Large Force Working to Save Railroad From Destruction.

Los Angeles, Nov. 25.—Two hundred men, divided into day and night shifts, 20 teams hauling brush and sand, two piledrivers thumping away almost incessantly, two sternwheel steamers carrying construction material and commissary stores from Yuma—these forces under Superintendent J. Tolin are engaged in the Herculean task of building a 600 foot dam across the west channel of the Colorado river four miles below Yuma, by which the California Development company hopes to bring Salton sea to a standstill and eventually restore the Salton Sink to a dry bed of evaporation of the flood waters that have wreaked such havoc there.

If the dam is a success, the Southern Pacific railway in June will be able to abandon its 16 miles of shoofly track east of Salton, and resume its main line. If the dam is a failure, 40 miles and perhaps more of shoofly may have to be built, the whole Imperial country may be deprived of its supply of canal water, and the Colorado river may be diverted through the River Padrones into Volcano lake, thence to find its way northward through the new river into the Salton Sea. What this would mean may be conjectured from the damage already done by the flooding of the great sink.

Final Agreements on Reports.

Washington, Nov. 25.—The board of consulting engineers of the Panama canal met today to add the finishing touches to the work and compare notes upon which to base the majority and minority reports which will embody the views of the members upon the sea-level and lock projects. This was necessary because the foreign members of the board have arranged to sail for Europe on November 28, leaving the compilation of the preliminary reports in the hands of the American members, subject to their perusal and amending.

Hyde-Diamond Case Postponed.

Washington, Nov. 25.—The hearing by the Criminal court on the demurrer filed in the Hyde-Diamond case, in which fraudulent land transactions on the Pacific coast are charged, which was set for today, was postponed for two weeks.